

Automobile Show

AT THE STATE ARMORY

Feb. 21st to 26th Inclusive

THE FARMER: FEBRUARY 22, 1916

AUTOMOBILE IS KING; ANNUAL SHOW ECLIPSES BRILLIANCY OF PREDECESSORS

Gay Throng At Armory For Opening of Half Million Dollar Display of the Best That American Automobile Manufacturers Can Produce—Lieut. Col. Vincent M. King, Conn. C. A. C., Bids Visitors Welcome As He Formally Inaugurates Annual Exposition.

As the band played gaily the Fourth Annual Automobile show opened at the State Armory in Main street last night to the largest crowd ever attracted to such an exhibition in this city. Decorations of the most novel character set off the varied makes and designs of cars and hundreds of colored lights from ceiling and side walls were resplendently reflected in the brightly polished bodies of the many exhibits that filled the big drill shed and the gun pits.

Nearly half a million dollars are represented in the cars shown by the various exhibitors representing the best that manufacturers in the automobile industry produce. All sorts of accessories were also displayed in the galleries.

The visitors began to arrive at 7:30 and soon the Armory was filled by a crowd that passed in and out and strolled to and fro until midnight. The show this year as usual is given under the auspices of the Connecticut Coast

Artillery corps and the Naval Reserves.

At 8:30 the Coast Artillery band struck up "Hail to the Chief," and Lieut. Col. Vincent M. King of the Connecticut Coast Artillery corps commanding the Bridgeport district, appeared in the west gallery to formally open the show. He was attended by a number of his officers in uniform. He said:

"It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here at the opening of the fourth automobile show. The automobile has become a great factor in modern life. In business and in pleasure it now fills such a sphere that it makes us wonder how our fathers got along without automobiles years ago. Such exhibitions as we are presenting to you tonight we feel are of great educational benefit. Here is given an opportunity to see in one great show room the various makes of cars and also an opportunity to note the great development in

automobile manufacture which the past year has produced. The prospective purchaser uncertain as to the car in which he will invest his money has here a chance to compare the merits of all side by side. On behalf of the Connecticut Coast Artillery organizations and the Naval Reserves under whose auspices this show is given I desire to thank you for your support and attendance and I trust you will enjoy every moment of the time you pass here."

The show this year embodies practically everything new and novel in the automobile world. In the show are big palatial limousines upholstered in soft and wonderfully, delicately tinted colors, with electric lights and every other appurtenance that luxury might afford or ingenuity provide. Serviceable touring cars with all modern improvements. Natty runabouts for physicians or business men. Dainty little electric runabouts for milady to make her calls or do shopping in. Light delivery wagons and big trucks. In fact anything and everything which the marvelous mechanics of the motor world have devised.

The decorations of the armory for the show are arranged on a more novel and elaborate scale than ever. The whole ceiling of the armory is covered by a great canopy of blue resembling the sky and studded with silver stars arranged in the groups and constellations which will at once be recognized by those who have the slightest knowledge of astronomy. Under this canopy hundreds of stuffed

doves are suspended on wires and the currents of heat from the many lights causes them to sway back and forth giving the impression that they are flying.

The aisles about the various exhibits marked off by hundreds of gigantic palm trees give the impression of a tropical forest. The effect is heightened by dozens of canaries in cages suspended under the trees. In the intervals when the band is not playing the shrill sweet notes of these feathered songsters makes music of a novel and pleasing nature.

To add to the tropic effect the walls are covered with paintings representing scenes off the coast of Florida. The sandy beaches of Miami and Palm Beach with the white rollers rushing in from the great blue ocean stretching far in the distance are so well reproduced that those who have seen these places will at once recognize them.

The balconies are hidden in tropical foliage and many American flags festooned about the armory add brighter bits of color to the general decorative effect.

One of the most pretentious exhibits is that of the Blue Ribbon garage, showing Packard cars and trucks and Dodge Bros. cars. A superb Packard limousine and a handsome Packard touring car are shown. Also a Packard truck. The new Packard "Twin Six" motor is one of the most interesting features of this exhibit. The distributors refer to Packard cars as the standard of perfection. A

compact combination of stealth and strength fusing power with silence, activity with control, and speed with security.

For the Dodge Bros. motor cars, of which they exhibit several fine examples, they offer cars which come under the medium priced category, yet in elegance, durability, quality and other things that go to make a good motor car equal the highest priced automobiles. The supply department of the Blue Ribbon garage whose exhibit is placed in the southeast gun pit, offers for inspection practically everything that is needed in making a car more serviceable or complete.

The varied exhibition of the Peck & Lines Co. attracts much attention at the show and is in personal charge of George H. Peck. Classy models of the Haynes cars which combine graceful lines with comfort, durability and all the latest appliances are shown in the seven passenger, Model 34, and the roadster Model 34 on exhibition. The latter car is designed to carry three persons comfortably and without the ungainly appearance of the cars which have the old fashioned rumble seat in the rear. Both are what the makers term "Light Sixes."

One of the nattiest cars in the show is also part of the Peck & Lines' exhibit, the special type H 2-2 roadster Chevrolet, designed also to carry three persons in comfort and without crowding. The Model H 4 Baby Grand is a dream of auto elegance and attracts much attention from the

ladies.

It is designed for five passengers. The Model 490 is a serviceable roadster for five people. All are equipped with electric lights, starter and generator.

Lippard-Stewart motor commercial cars from 1,000 to 1,500 pounds capacity and motor trucks from one to 3 ton capacity are also part of this exhibit.

Ralph W. Barnes, distributor for Chalmers cars in this section is pressed with inquiries regarding the handsome models he displays at the show. The new 34 r. p. m. Chalmers, six cylinder is what Mr. Barnes is especially concerned in showing. The name means that in the 3,400 revolutions per minute every grain of energy is wrung from every drop of gasoline inhaled by the powerful suction of the motor pistons. The result is 18 miles per hour for every gallon of gasoline up to 60 miles per hour. This car is one of the features of the show.

The Fairbanks Electric Co. who have stores in Bridgeport, Stamford and South Norwalk have an interesting exhibit of Willard Storage batteries. These batteries are used in 147 American and foreign makes of automobiles and motor devices. The concern does repairing and recharging of all makes of storage batteries and also rents batteries for all types of automobiles.

The one car at the show which is represented in 8's, 6's and 4's is the Oakland for which John C. Mattice is distributor for Bridgeport, Danbury

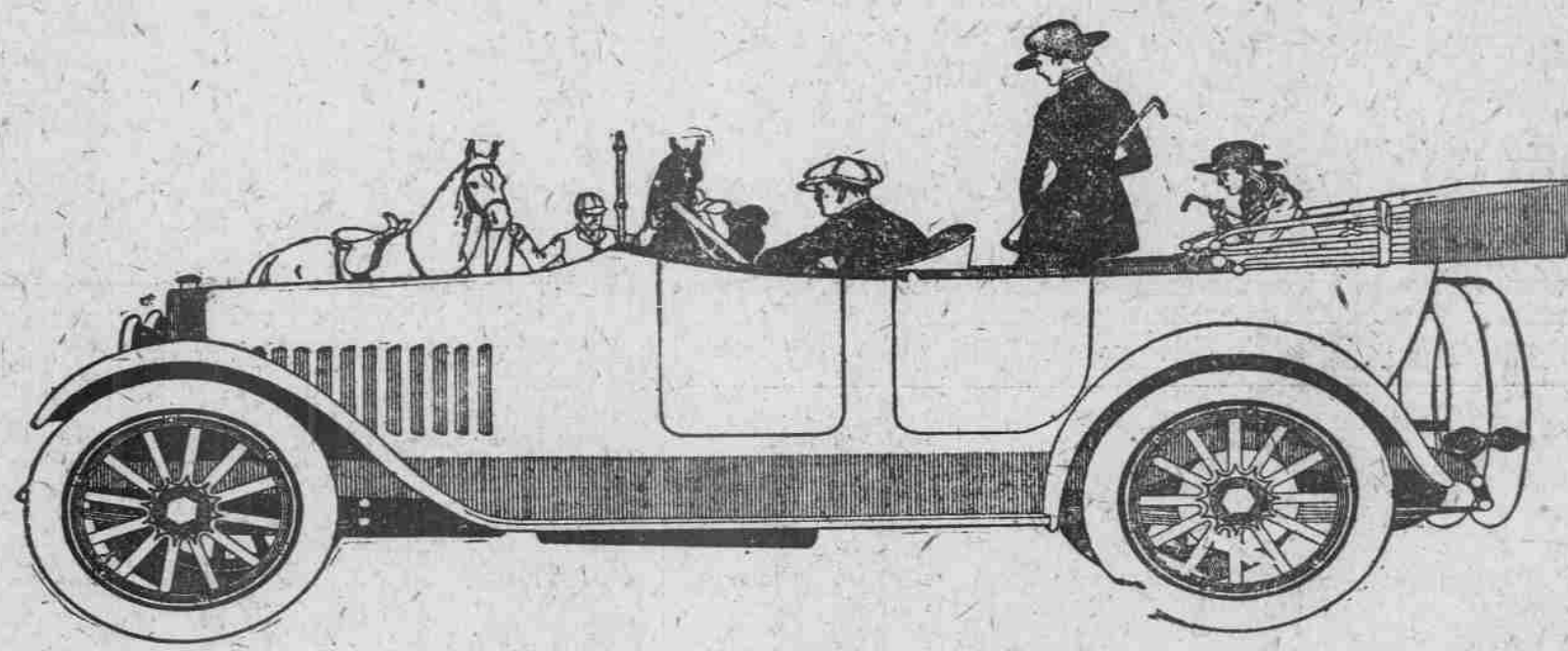
and adjacent territory. These cars combine the essence of flexible perfectly controlled power with beautiful body lines and cushions of luxurious depth and finish. The eight cylinder develops 73 horse power and is a high speed seven-passenger car. The six cylinder is a comfortable car suitable for man or woman in five passenger or roadster. The four cylinder is also made in five or two passenger design.

Touring cars, roadster and limousine designs of the Studebaker cars are shown in the exhibit of Elm Auto Co., of which Fred Mills has charge. Its owners claim makers claim that in 1915 there were more Studebakers registered by owners in Detroit. "Home of automobile manufacture" than any other car made to sell above \$500. The cars which attract most attention in this exhibit are the six cylinder fifty horse power seven passenger and the four cylinder, forty horse power seven passenger. Four and six cylinder cars of landau-roadster and coupe design are shown as well as half and one ton commercial trucks.

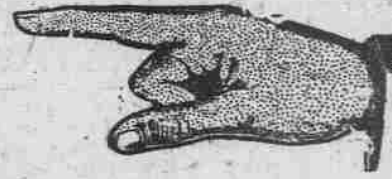
Robert P. Beach, widely known as a driver of racing cars, takes ride in showing at the exhibition the new Chandler six cylinder for which he is distributor in this city. Two models are shown by Mr. Beach who is manager of the Arrow Motor Sales Co. They are a seven passenger touring car and a four passenger roadster. The bodies of the cars have the Chandler blue high finish. The walnut paneled tonneau cowl is a pleasant feature for which John C. Mattice is distributor for Bridgeport, Danbury

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AUTO SHOW



AT THE ARMORY ALL THIS WEEK



Over a Half Million Dollars Worth of Motor Cars Exhibited

Continuous Concerts Aternoon and Evening by Coast Artillery Band

SPECIAL AMUSEMENTS

Admission

25c